**3.4 Preaching God’s Word- How to Preach**

In last 3 sessions, we have learned about, what is Word of God, its symbols and how to receive it in our lives. Further, we also discussed about who ca preach and to whom to preach as well as where and when to preach. Hope you all are excited about what we learned already. I encourage you all to take time and read the reference verses and meditate upon them.

Today, we are going to talk about ‘How to Preach Word of God?’

With this session, we will come to an end of this module of bible study.

The Myths about How to preach are

* Only after preparing well
* With the support of Google/ Youtube/ other’s preachings/ History
* What we know from bible
* Carefully, with convincing and without hurting their feelings

I am not saying to preach without preparation. But our preparation is to be continual and mainly not for preaching to others but for transforming our inner self. Our transformation is biggest preaching.

I am not saying to not to listen to any preachers or not to watch messages on Youtube or not to use Google/ history for information. But the thing is we should read scriptures thoroughly to check whether the information we are receiving is right or wrong. Sometimes, the most renowned may speak something not relevant to scriptures. Fact checking from scriptures before believing is crucial.

Romans 10: 15 says

15And how will they preach unless they are commissioned and sent [for that purpose]? Just as it is written and forever remains written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!” [Is 52:7]

We also need to know more from bible to grow everyday. A Christian without spiritual growth on daily basis is never a Christian.

Scripture from Hebrews 4:12 (AMP) says Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as the division of the soul and spirit, and of both joints and marrow [the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart.

So, how can it be convincing and painless. Never think about sugar coating on Word of God.

Scripture says, our words should be Yes or No. No grey areas are acceptable. But we have to remember that our condemnation should be with Christ’s love and patience but not with authority.

Let’s dive into scriptures to understand the facts

**Word of God cannot be changed/ altered**

Matthew 24: 35

35Heaven and earth [as now known] will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

Matthew 5:18-19

18For I assure you and most solemnly say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke [of the pen] will pass from the Law until all things [which it foreshadows] are accomplished. 19So whoever breaks one of the least [important]of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least [important] in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever practices and teaches them, he will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Deuteronomy 4:2

2You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, so that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I am commanding you.

Revelation 22:18-19

18I testify and warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book [its predictions, consolations, and admonitions]: if anyone adds [anything] to them, God will add to him the plagues (afflictions, calamities) which are written in this book; [Deut 4:2] 19and if anyone takes away from or distorts the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away [from that one] his share from the tree of life and from the holy city (new Jerusalem), which are written in this book.

**Word of God doesn’t need convincing stories/ additional story lines**

2 Peter 1: 16

16For we did not follow cleverly devised stories or myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty [His grandeur, His authority, His sovereignty].

2 Peter 2: 1-3

1But [in those days] false prophets arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will subtly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves. 2Many will follow their shameful ways, and because of them the way of truth will be maligned. 3And in their greed they will exploit you with false arguments and twisted doctrine. Their sentence [of condemnation which God has decreed] from a time long ago is not idle [but is still in force], and their destruction and deepening misery is not asleep [but is on its way].

Matthew 7:15

15 “Beware of the false prophets, [teachers] who come to you dressed as sheep [appearing gentle and innocent], but inwardly are ravenous wolves. [Ezek 22:27] 16By their fruit you will recognize them [that is, by their contrived doctrine and self-focus].

1 Thessalonians 2:3-5

3For our appeal does not come from delusion or impure motives, nor [is it motivated] by deceit [our message is complete, accurate, and based on the truth—it does not change]. 4But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel [that tells the good news of salvation through faith in Christ], so we speak, not as [if we were trying] to please people [to gain power and popularity], but to please God who examines our hearts [expecting our best]. 5For as you well know, we never came with words of flattery nor with a pretext for greed—God is our witness— 6nor did we seek glory and honor from people, neither from you nor from anyone else, though as apostles of Christ we had the power to assert our authority. 7But we behaved gently when we were among you, like a devoted mother tenderly caring for her own children. 8Having such a deep affection for you, we were delighted to share with you not only God’s good news but also our own lives, because you had become so very dear to us.

**Preaching Christ with wrong reasons and motives**

Philippians 1: 15-18

15Some, it is true, are [actually] preaching Christ out of envy and rivalry [toward me—for no better reason than a competitive spirit or misguided ambition], but others out of goodwill and a loyal spirit [toward me]. 16The latter [preach Christ] out of love, because they know that I have been put here [by God on purpose] for the defense of the gospel; 17but the former preach Christ [insincerely] out of selfish ambition [just self-promotion], thinking that they are causing me distress in my imprisonment. 18What then [does it matter]? So long as in every way, whether in pretense [for self-promotion] or in all honesty [to spread the truth], Christ is being preached; and in this I rejoice.

1 Corinthians 9:16

16For if I [merely] preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast about, for I am compelled [that is, absolutely obligated to do it]. Woe to me if I do not preach the good news [of salvation]!

Galatians 1:6-9

6I am astonished and extremely irritated that you are so quickly shifting your allegiance and deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different [even contrary] gospel; 7which is really not another [gospel]; but there are [obviously] some [people masquerading as teachers] who are disturbing and confusing you [with a misleading, counterfeit teaching] and want to distort the gospel of Christ [twisting it into something which it absolutely is not]. 8But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we [originally] preached to you, let him be condemned to destruction! 9As we have said before, so I now say again, if anyone is preaching to you a gospel different from that which you received [from us], let him be condemned to destruction!

**Preaching in God’s sight be like…**

Isaiah 61:1-3

1The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,

Because the Lord has anointed and commissioned me

To bring good news to the humble and afflicted;

He has sent me to bind up [the wounds of] the brokenhearted,

To proclaim release [from confinement and condemnation] to the [physical and spiritual] captives

And freedom to prisoners, [Rom 10:15]

2To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord,

And the day of vengeance and retribution of our God,

To comfort all who mourn, [Matt 11:2-6; Luke 4:18, 19; 7:22]

3To grant to those who mourn in Zion the following:

To give them a turban instead of dust [on their heads, a sign of mourning],

The oil of joy instead of mourning,

The garment [expressive] of praise instead of a disheartened spirit.

So they will be called the trees of righteousness [strong and magnificent, distinguished for integrity, justice, and right standing with God],

The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

Luke 4: 16-21

16So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. 17The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, [Is 61:1, 2]

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me (the Messiah),

Because He has anointed Me to preach the good news to the poor.

He has sent Me to announce release (pardon, forgiveness) to the captives,

And recovery of sight to the blind,

To set free those who are oppressed (downtrodden, bruised, crushed by tragedy),

19 to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord [the day when salvation and the favor of God abound greatly].” [Is 61:1, 2]

20Then He rolled up the scroll [having stopped in the middle of the verse], gave it back to the attendant and sat down [to teach]; and the eyes of all those in the synagogue were [attentively] fixed on Him. 21He began speaking to them: “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing and in your presence.”

Galatians 1:10

10Am I now trying to win the favor and approval of men, or of God? Or am I seeking to please someone? If I were still trying to be popular with men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

**Better not to be preachers of words**

Matthew 7: 21-23

21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. 22Many will say to Me on that day [when I judge them], ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, and driven out demons in Your name, and done many miracles in Your name?’ 23And then I will declare to them publicly, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me [you are banished from My presence], you who act wickedly [disregarding My commands].’ [Ps 6:8]

James 3:1

1Not many [of you] should become teachers [serving in an official teaching capacity], my brothers and sisters, for you know that we [who are teachers] will be judged by a higher standard [because we have assumed greater accountability and more condemnation if we teach incorrectly].

1 Corinthians 2: 4-5

4And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom [using clever rhetoric], but [they were delivered] in demonstration of the [Holy] Spirit [operating through me] and of [His] power [stirring the minds of the listeners and persuading them], 5so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom and rhetoric of men, but on the power of God.

**Our lives and behaviour is live preaching**

I Peter 2:11-12

11Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers [in this world] to abstain from the sensual urges [those dishonorable desires] that wage war against the soul. 12Keep your behavior excellent among the [unsaved] Gentiles [conduct yourself honorably, with graciousness and integrity], so that for whatever reason they may slander you as evildoers, yet by observing your good deeds they may [instead come to] glorify God in the day of visitation [when He looks upon them with mercy].

We have to preach with conviction but not with convincing words

Our job is to throw light on people/ situations through scriptural facts, so that every one could see their spots. No need of personal intervention. Holy spirit God will work in them through the spoken words.

Lot of times we jump into peoples lives / situations and wanted to direct their paths based on our little knowledge. Also, sometimes we use scriptures to target someone and specifically rebuke them with personal intentions. Remember one thing that if we misuse or misinterpret the scriptures for our own benefit, the punishment will be multiplied.

If our life can throw light on facts, they can clearly see their mistakes/ issues. It is up to their wish whether to correct them or not and it is 100% between them and God. Never use our human knowledge to preach Word of God because Word of God itself is strong enough to do work. It doesn’t need our helping hand.